

The Mission Field

Chicago Mission

This morning, a lady seventy-one years old called, hungry and pennyless. She had lived in Omaha, and an only son came to Chicago to find work. He found it, and had written to his old mother to come and keep house for him. When she arrived, a card awaited her, telling her that he had gotten his arm broken and was in the county hospital; the nurse also wrote her. After a day's wandering in this big city she found the hospital, but her son was gone and had left her word to meet him at the general post office on Michigan Ave. After wandering half a day without food, she saw a picture of the Savior in our Mission. She sat down on the steps and cried. Being taken up to our flat, a cup of coffee and a warm meal revived her, and she related the common story. The son was a drinking man, and had run thru with all she had, and now she was in the big cold world without money and only a drunken son to lean upon. Sister Bertha put her on the right street car, paid her fare, and told the conductor to see that she got to the post-office, where it is to be hoped her recreant son met her.

We received from a good sister in Pennsylvania, the following which speaks for itself: "I saw in the EVANGELIST a call from you for a tract fund, for which I send you the widow's mite, hoping and praying the Lord will use it to the saving of some poor wandering soul. Oh, how many mother's hearts cry to God in behalf of their wandering boys. (Enclosed thirty cents.) Yours for the cause of Christ. M. B." My good sister, the old lady mentioned above, carried away with her some of the tracts. Let us pray that they may reach the heart of her son.

We now have an eight o'clock Sunday morning service for the redemption of drinking men. This service is mainly under the direction of Brother McColoster, who knows how to sympathize with those under the power of drink. At the first service one drunk man came in and sat mumbling while the service was going on. He heard words of the power of Jesus to save that may cling to his soul until God may give him power over drink. Several brethren who were once slaves to the habit, will assist in this meeting among whom are Brother Stewart of the Peoria street mission, and Brother McNally. No sadder picture can be imagined than an old man under the influence of drink. Naught but the power of God can save such and many there be. It is wonderful what God thru the Holy Ghost can do with such a man. We have among us the living examples of the grace of God on the lives of such men. In preaching to those men, it is not dealing with obtuse theology, but the plain pointed application of the sharp edge of the gospel, which is generally accompanied by the power of the Holy Ghost, who makes known the blood of Jesus to the soul of the benighted drunkard. Brethren, we have

BRETHREN EVANGELIST

seen with our own eyes the wonderful power of God in saving such. Pray for us.

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J. O. TALLEY.

MISSIONS

J. L. KIMMEL

Our Master and Teacher established in the world a missionary church. The primary meaning of the word mission as defined by lexicographers is—The act of sending or the state of being sent, as on some business or service—a sending or being sent with authority as a minister or agent for some special duty or negotiation to go on a mission. It is surprising how closely the word apostle is related in meaning to the word missionary. The word missionary being defined as one *sent*, and the word apostle meaning one sent of God. Thus when Jesus chose his twelve apostles he virtually chose so many missionaries who were to go forth and propagate his teachings and proclaim the good news to every creature. This missionary spirit did not, however, originate with the apostolic age. It had a higher origin than that of earth—it was born in heaven. In His wonderful message to Nicodemus the Judean philosopher who could not comprehend the transforming power of the new birth Jesus declared, For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son that whosoever believeth in him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God sent not His Son into the world to condemn the world but that the world thru Him might be saved.

The first missionary therefore that ever came to bless this sin cursed world and proclaim the whole truth to the children of men and give us a full and complete plan of redemption was the Son of God himself. His life demonstrates in the most eminent degree the spirit of missionary enterprise. The whole career of His ministry was noted for missionary labors. From Galilee to Jerusalem, from Bethany to Nazareth, footsore, weary and hungry, waiting for bread and begging for water, he gives at the same time to the hungry soul of the Samaritan woman the bread and water of everlasting life. And for fear that those who manifested a desire to follow Him did not have a proper apprehension of the nature of His mission He declared that the foxes had holes and the birds of the air had nests but the Son of man had not where to lay his head. Persecuted, despised and rejected of men he continued in healing the sick, cleansing the lepers, giving sight to the blind, feeding the hungry, comforting the broken hearted but above all giving that which was so far superior to any earthly blessing the gift of eternal life. And when about to ascend from Mount Olivet to his Father's throne He delivers to them the whole gospel in one sentence, Go ye therefore and teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded

you and lo I am with you alway even unto the end of the world.

The first great missionary movement of the apostolic age had its origin on the day of Pentecost when Parthians and Medes and Elemites and the dwellers in Mesopotamia and in Judea and Cappadocia, in Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, in Egypt and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians heard in their own tongue the wonderful works of God.

The second great missionary movement of this age was brought about thru dire persecutions that scattered the first Christians as far as Cyrene and Antioch. And the Word says that the hand of the Lord was with them and a great number believed and turned unto the Lord. At Antioch the first Gentile church was founded and in this church began the first great missionary movement to the Gentile world. To this church the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul, for the work whereunto I have called them.

The result of the consecration of these holy men of God as the first missionaries to the Gentile world was that all Asia Minor was filled with the seeds of gospel truth. And Philippi, Thessalonica, Berea, Athens and Corinth had planted within them Christian churches. For 30 long years, Paul, this great missionary to the Gentiles, continued his earnest and self sacrificing labors, until finally his life work came to a close in the imperial city of Rome. In this great metropolis of wealth and luxury, debauchery and crime, did this devout and consecrated man preach the gospel to all who came unto him until some of the chief men of the kingdom believed. And tradition declares that even the soldiers to whom he was chained became missionaries and carried the gospel to Germany and Britain where they laid the foundation of great moral reformations. In summing up his missionary career to the Corinthian church he declares, Of the Jews five times received I forty stripes save one. Thrice was I beaten with rods, once was I stoned, thrice I suffered shipwreck, a night and a day I have been in the deep. In journeyings often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils by mine own countrymen, in perils by the heathen, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren. In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, in cold and nakedness. Besides those things that are without that which cometh upon me daily the care of all the churches. Such was the testimony of this great missionary to the Gentiles, and finally as to seal it with his own blood he offers himself a martyr upon the altar of sacrifice. The experience of Paul proves to us more or less the life of all the apostles and John altho escaping a martyr's death, became an exile for the Word of God and the testimony of Jesus Christ.

All the powers of that wicked age and that mighty empire were marshalled against the teachings of the first Christians. No class of